

## GRANTS TO THE VOLUNTARY SECTOR PANEL – 28TH JUNE 2005

**SUBJECT: APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**

**REPORT BY: DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

### 1. STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURE

1.1 The Panel's budget for 2005/2006 is £309,432. The following amounts have been allocated to date:-

	£
CAB *	116,360
Discretionary Rate Relief	155,346
Grants awarded by Panel	135
Grants determined by Officers in consultation with Chairman and Vice Chairman	8,440
Trophies, footballs etc	0
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>280281</b>

\* £99,360 in cash and £17,000 in kind, the latter being premises running costs.

Therefore, the balance available for grants to the voluntary sector is £ 29,151.

The total of amounts requested for applications listed in this report is £9,696. In addition there are a number which do not specify amounts.

### 2. APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

2.1 The current general criteria for awarding financial assistance are listed below:-

Annual Award	£
(a) OAP Association with own building	240
(b) OAP Association without own building	120
(c) Junior Sports Club	35 per number of members
(d) Individuals representing Wales at home	120
(e) Individuals representing Wales abroad	240
(f) Jazz Bands	60
(g) Choirs	60
(h) Scout/cubs/brownies/guides/boys brigade/crusaders	35 per number of members
(i) St John Ambulance:-	
Cadets	60 per number of members
Badgers	35 per number of members
(j) Boys and Girls Clubs and YMCA's with own premises	460
(k) Youth Associations without own premises	35 per number of members

All other applications for sponsorship and miscellaneous grants are treated on their merits.

A total of 22 new applications have been received and are appended below for consideration.

## **2.2 Welsh Giant Vegetable Championship**

This annual event will take place in Abertysswg on 17<sup>th</sup> September. Unspecified financial support is sought towards the cost of trophies etc. Last year £75 was provided.

## **2.3 Mid Glamorgan Area Scout Council**

The Area Council aims to support the numerous Scout groups within the Caerphilly area. A grant of £1,000 is requested to provide training for adults involved in scouting in this area, enabling them to deliver meaningful & worthwhile programmes. Previous applications from umbrella associations have not been supported except for the purchase of equipment or repairs to buildings.

## **2.4 Caerphilly County Borough Family History Society**

The Society takes part in numerous exhibitions and provides speakers for Community Groups throughout the County Borough. An unspecified donation is sought towards running costs. In past years £100 has been provided.

## **2.5 Islwyn Community Credit Union Ltd**

The Union has paid Business Rates of £1,810.30 on its premises in Blackwood High Street. No rate relief is available to Credit Unions and a grant is requested to cover this amount. Last year £1,943 was awarded for the same purpose.

## **2.6 Bargoed, Aberbargoed & Gilfach Credit Union**

As in 2.5 above, the Union has paid business rates of £684.12 in respect of its premises in Aberbargoed and is seeking a grant of this amount. Last year £497 was awarded for the same purpose.

## **2.7 Aber Valley Sports Association**

The Association aims to develop and improve sports facilities for all sports clubs in the valley. A grant of £500 is requested to help with the cost of building a new changing room at Senghenydd. The Key Fund will provide up to £30,000 for materials but the total is expected to be in excess of this amount.

## **2.8 Aber Valley Male Voice Choir**

The Choir is in need of new uniforms to wear when performing at charity concerts. The total cost is £6,500 and funding from various sources is expected to be around £4,500. Assistance is requested towards the shortfall of £2,000. A Welsh Church Fund application has also been submitted and is included at 3. 5. In 2001, an amount of £284 was awarded towards the cost of a concert with a visiting choir. An annual award of £60 would be payable in accordance with the agreed criteria.

## **2.9 Aneurin Club, Penyrheol**

The Club is used by the local community for meetings and charity functions but is suffering financial problems and has a decreasing membership. In order to attract new members, the Committee would like to decorate the interior and exterior. Assistance is sought with the cost but no amount has been specified.

## **2.10 Arthritis Care, Ystrad Mynach**

This branch was formed in 1987 and currently has 32 members. A grant of £300 is sought towards the cost of transporting members to monthly meetings and social events. Last year £270 was awarded.

## **2.11 Bedwas Trethomas & Machen Band Society**

This year the Band has qualified to play in the National Brass Band Championships and has also been invited to compete in the English Open. In June the Band will compete in the French Open along with championship bands from all over Europe. Competing at this level is an expensive task and a grant of £2,500 has been requested towards the cost of competing in France. In 2004/2005, £250 was awarded towards the cost of taking part in the Scottish Open.

## **2.12 Caerphilly Local History Society**

The Society has 60 members and will shortly publish Caerphilly No.7 with a launch at the Visitor Centre. Assistance is sought with the cost of hiring a meeting room, which has recently increased to £200. Last year £120 was provided.

## **2.13 Cefn Hengoed Ladies Friendship Club**

The above is a group of 16 ladies who meet weekly. An unspecified grant is sought towards running costs. Last year £35 was awarded.

## **2.14 Crosskeys College Choral Society**

For a number of years the Society has held its annual concert at Risca Leisure Centre. The 2005 concert was held on 21<sup>st</sup> May and the Choir is seeking a grant of £600 to pay for the hire of the leisure centre. Total cost of staging the event is estimated at £12,450. Last year £500 was provided.

## **2.15 Crosskeys and Pontywaun Carnival Committee**

A grant of £150 is requested to help with the running costs of the annual carnival. Last year £110 was awarded.

## **2.16 Elliot Colliery Friends and Volunteers**

The above was formed in 2002 and has 85 adult and 9 junior members. The Association aims to promote community involvement with the museum and develop a volunteer workforce to deliver improved facilities. A grant of £152 is sought towards the cost of insurance for volunteer activities.

## **2.17 Machen Cricket Club**

In accordance with the set criteria, the Club is eligible for a grant of £175 in respect of its junior membership. However, £500 is requested towards indoor nets costing £2,000. The Club is not eligible for Welsh Church Fund assistance until 2006/2007.

## **2.18 Newbridge –Online Website**

The website is used by ex-patriots around the world and locals on a daily basis. It is a not for profit voluntary site which costs around £400 a year for third party services. An unspecified grant is sought towards this cost. Last year £100 was provided.

## **2.19 Wednesday Circle, Newbridge**

The above is a recently formed, self supporting group for people with mental health or depression problems. The group has 12 members and meets weekly. An unspecified grant is sought towards the cost of room rent and day trips.

## **2.20 PDSA Cardiff Hospital**

The PDSA Centre in Cardiff provides free treatment for the pets of people in receipt of means-tested benefits. In 2003 nearly 1,500 treatments were for animals belonging to residents of Caerphilly County Borough. A grant of £1,500 is requested. A Welsh Church Fund application has also been submitted at 3.10. In 2003/2004, a Welsh Church Fund grant of £1,500 was awarded towards the purchase of an endoscope.

## **2.21 Royal British Legion, Newbridge Branch**

The Branch is organising a parade on 9<sup>th</sup> July to commemorate the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the ending of the second world war. The event will culminate with a Drumhead Service at Newbridge War Memorial. The total cost will be around £950 and an unspecified donation is requested.

## **2.22 Morgan Roberts, Hollybush – National Youth Choir of Great Britain**

Mr Roberts is a member of the National Youth Choir of Great Britain and must attend the summer course in Dorset. The cost of the course is £390 and he has requested financial assistance. In 2002/2003, £110 was provided for a similar purpose.

## **2.23 Jessica Williams, Bargoed – MA Course**

Ms Williams is a graduating student of the London Contemporary Dance School who has been accepted on an MA course in dance performance from September, also in London. MA courses are not eligible for student loans and Ms Williams needs to raise £10,000 to fund the year. Financial assistance has been requested.

## **3. WELSH CHURCH ACTS FUND**

3.1 At previous meetings of the Panel it was decided that the following criteria would apply when considering applications for assistance from the Welsh Church Fund.

- (i) A grant of no more than £1,500 be given to partly fund projects of £4,500 and over;
- (ii) Smaller projects less than £4,500 be grant aided up to a third of the total cost;
- (iii) All organisations receiving grants produce the necessary financial records to show the expenditure has been incurred;
- (vi) No organisation be allowed to apply in consecutive years.

The Council's annual allocation from the Fund is £46,045. The total of grants awarded so far this year is £3,000 and therefore the balance available is £43,045. Ten new applications are appended below. The total of amounts requested in accordance with the agreed criteria is £12,074.

## **3.2 Elim Community Church, Pontlottyn**

The above are in the process of converting a former school building into a Church and Community Centre. Total cost of the project will be around £80,000 and a grant of £1,500 is

requested.

### **3.3 St Margaret's Church, Gilfach, Bargoed**

A new porch and toilets are to be constructed at an estimated cost of £48,000. The maximum grant has therefore been requested.

### **3.4 Abercarn Bowls Club**

The Club leases a plot of land from the Council and is building new changing rooms. The Key Fund is providing £30,000 and the Club has to raise £13,000. A Welsh Church grant of £1,500 is requested towards the Club's contribution.

### **3.5 Aber Valley Male Voice Choir**

The Choir wishes to purchase new uniforms to wear at charity concerts. Total cost is estimated at £6,500 and the maximum grant is requested. Consideration is also being sought from the Panel's budget at 2.8 above.

### **3.6 Bedwas OAP Association**

The Association has recently had to replace its central heating boiler at a cost of £1,521. A grant of £507 would represent one third.

### **3.7 Blackwood Town Cricket Club**

The maximum grant is sought towards the cost of a bowling machine and cricket roller recently purchased at a cost of £5,886.

### **3.8 1st Cefn Fforest Scout Group**

Over the past eighteen months, repairs to the Scout Hut at Cefn Fforest and new equipment have cost a total of £3,783. A grant of £1261 would represent a third.

### **3.9 Newbridge & District Ladies Choir**

The Choir is in need of new uniforms to take part in a massed ladies choir concert at Wrexham during October. The cost is estimated at £2,666 and a grant of £889 would represent one third. Additional consideration from the Panel's budget has previously been refused.

### **3.10 PDSA Cardiff Hospital**

The PDSA Centre in Cardiff provides free treatment for the pets of people in receipt of means-tested benefits. In 2003 nearly 1,500 treatments were for animals belonging to residents of Caerphilly County Borough. The Centre has recently purchased new dog run cages at a cost of £1,250 and a Welsh Church Fund grant is sought towards this cost and repairs to essential equipment. Consideration is also sought from the Panel's budget at 2.20 above.

### **3.11 Risca Senior Citizens Association**

A Welsh Church Fund grant of £1,500 is requested to help with the cost of entertainment, coach trips and Christmas dinner. The Association is eligible for an annual award of £240 from the Panel's budget which has not yet been paid.

#### 4. TROPHIES, FOOTBALLS ETC

It has been the practice of the Panel in recent years to retain an amount in respect of trophies, footballs etc to be distributed on behalf of the Authority by the Head of Leisure Services. Last year £1,000 was allocated for this purpose. The Panel is asked to consider whether to continue this practice.

#### 5. DECISIONS OF OFFICERS

5.1 The following grants have been awarded in accordance with the agreed criteria:-

<b>Ref</b>	<b>Name of Organisation</b>	<b>Grant Awarded £</b>
07/05	Cwmcarn OAP Welfare Association	240
08/05	Maesycwmmmer OAP Association	240
09/05	Pentwyn & District Senior Citizens	120
10/05	Pontymister Youth AFC	420
11/05	Senghenydd RFC Juniors	245
12/05	1 <sup>st</sup> Ystrad Mynach Guides	70
13/05	Frazer Richards, Caerphilly - Squash	240
14/05	Ken Leeson, Cefn Hengoed - Pool	120
15/05	Brithdir 55-65 Club	120
16/05	Gilfach Old Peoples Welfare Committee	240
17/05	Cwmcarn Institute Youth Club	105 + 105
18/05	Ross Bowen, Gelligaer – Pool	120
19/05	Adrian Wilde, Gelligaer - Pool	120
20/05	Jake Wilde, Gelligaer – Pool	120
21/05	Richard Vaughan, Llanbradach	240
22/05	Craig Walkley, Caerphilly - Badmington	240
23/05	1 <sup>st</sup> Fleur de Lys Ranger Guides	35
24/05	Llanbradach OAP Welfare Committee	240
25/05	Cascade OAP Association	120
26/05	Cefn Hengoed OAP Association	120
27/05	BTM Junior Football Club	350
28/05	Heolddu Gymnastics Club	210

29/05	1 <sup>st</sup> Blackwood Brownies	70
30/05	1 <sup>st</sup> Trinant Brownies	70
31/05	1 <sup>st</sup> Fleur de Lys Guides	35
32/05	2 <sup>nd</sup> Pontllanfraith Guides (1 <sup>st</sup> Application)	70 + 70
33/05	Phillip Osborne, Abertyswg - Rugby	240
34/05	Gareth Pitt, Caerphilly – Squash	240
35/05	Nicole Walkley, Caerphilly – Badmington	240
50/05	Hengoed OAP Association	120
51/05	Cefn Hengoed Ladies Choir	60
52/05	1 <sup>st</sup> Oakdale Brownies	35
53/05	2 <sup>nd</sup> Pontllanfraith Brownies	70
54/05	Western Valley West District Guides (Bedwas, Trethomas & Machen)	280
55/05	Pontlloctyn Boys & Girls Club	460
56/05	John Dobson, Bedwas - Snooker	240
57/05	Angharad Griffiths, Princetown - Hockey	240
58/05	Claire Kelly, Caerphilly – Bowls	240
59/05	Martin Selway, Caerphilly - Bowls	240
60/05	Lloyd Summers, Abertridwr – Sea Angling	120
61/05	Stephanie Williams, Abertridwr - Netball	240